NAVIGATING TO A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

Academic Libraries and the Triple Bottom Line

Frederick Stoss, SUNY Buffalo
Julia Gelfand, UC Irvine
Heather Hayashi, Cristela Garcia-Spitz, & Gayatri Singh, UC San Diego
ACRL, Baltimore, March 23, 2017
Introduction

Environmental Sustainability
- Buildings & Operations
- Outreach Beyond the Campus

Economical Sustainability
- Library Collections

Social Sustainability
- Socially Responsible Library Services & Practices

Social
Environmental
Economical
Environmental Sustainability — Internalities

LEED Buildings

Smart Technologies

Energy Efficiencies

Resources Conservation

Waste Reduction

Ways of Measurement

Stoss, F.
“Anything on which John Major, George Bush and Fidel Castro all agree can’t really mean anything, can it?”

Updating Language

Green Sustainable & Smart Library Buildings, Technologies, & Ideas

Stoss, F.
Standardizing and Measuring Performance

Current Corporate and Higher Education Methods:

• **GRI** (Global Reporting Initiative) **Index**
• **DJSI** (Dow Jones Sustainability Index)
• **AASHE’s** (Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education) **STARS** (Sustainability Tracking, Assessment and Rating System)
Changing the dialogues about how we live and why

- Quality of Life Indicators
- Better partnerships, collaborations, understanding, resources sharing
- Community-based solutions
- Ethical aspects of “doing the right and just things”

Environmental Quality

- Clean Air
- Clean Water
- Smart Land Use
- Ecological

- Effective Waste Management
- Robust Recycling
- Adequate & Nutritional Food
- Childhood Obesity

- Safe Housing
- Smart-Energy Technologies
- More Alternatives
- Less Fossil Fuels
Think Globally, Act Locally — Externalities

Global Reach—Local Touch (ALA Pres., Barbara Ford, 1998)

International & National Organizations

Local & State Governments
• Elected & Appointed Officials
• Interagency

Neighborhood Coalitions, Community, & Civic Groups
Stay Engaged and Informed, Be Involved

- United Nations Sustainable Development Goals
- IFLA ENSULIB (Environment, Sustainability, and Libraries)
- ALA
  - Sustainability Resolution passed by ALA Council 2015
  - SustainRT (Sustainability Round Table)
  - Libraries Build Sustainable Communities
    - Global Learning, Inc. Collaboration
    - $300K Grant from USAID 1999-2001
- NYLA Sustainability Initiative--A National Model
- AASHE (Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education)
- Your local community’s needs and values
- Your campus’ sustainability initiatives and goals
Economical Sustainability

- Collections
- Funding
- Human Resources
- Open Access
- Resource Sharing
- Return On Investment (ROI)
- Technology

Gelfand, J.
Why is sustainability important for collections?

- Academic library collections are typically looked at in terms of economic sustainability but we contribute to an overall higher carbon footprint when we encourage wider use of technologies, readers, devices to promote eReading.

- Increasing e-access decreases sustainability in that it requires more money, energy, and produces more tech-waste.

- Library space redirected from collection holdings to user centered.
- Promotes collaborations & partnerships, new technologies & publishing models.
- Format agnostic but still imperfect.
- Builds collection strengths - reflecting local campus priorities.
- Reinforces core library values, i.e. resource sharing, new ways to handle collections.

Gelfand, J.
Collections - never cost neutral

• Collection content & resources are most expensive ledger item on library operating budget either ahead of just after HR expenses & benefits

• Libraries are moving away from collection building to more access models - acquisition at time of need

• Subscriptions have dominated library spends in recent years - journals, databases, eBook packages & streaming media at the expense of single items - OA may change that

• Evidence-based practice has replaced data-driven models based on publishers’ policies & available content
New business models needed

Open Access

- Does not mean FREE
- Lots of nuances muddying the waters
- Author pays model often pushes the library to contribute costs
Sustaining Research Data Management often an Unfunded Mandate

Steps towards sustaining collections

- Understand that sustainability is more than just financial or fiscal constraints
- Develop measures for more financially attractive costs & greater eBook presence
- Identify & fund digitization projects
- Create best practices for storage facility content retrieval - frequency, scanning
- Options for media viewing - streaming
- Economic models - when to buy, borrow, lease; DDA or EBM
- Enhance linked data
- Promote discoverability via online browsing, A&I
Social Sustainability
External

- Campus Goals & Initiatives
- Education & Outreach
- Recognition & Evaluation
Institutionalizing Sustainability

UC San Diego Alignment with University of California Goals:

- UC Diversity Statement & UCSD Principles of Community
- Zero Waste by 2020
- Global Food Initiative - food literacy, support campus garden initiatives such as CSA (Community Supported Agriculture) program
- Sustainable Purchasing - ENERGY STAR, Green Seal Certified, EPEAT to support sustainable businesses and their practices

UCSD Library Alignment with UCSD Strategic Plan:

- Sustainability & Innovation Continue efforts to ensure that the Library remains an agile, responsive, and financially and environmentally sustainable organization that acts strategically and supports creative problem solving and innovative thinking.
Education & Outreach

UC San Diego Library’s Sustainability Group (LSG)
• Events: Earth Week DIY Makers Day Fair, Food Drives
• Resources: Sustainability LibGuide, collections
• Public services: Writing Instrument Brigade, recycled paper in public computers, hydration stations,

UC San Diego Library Diversity & Inclusion Committee (LDIC)
• Guest speakers, movie screenings, exhibits, Wikipedia editathons
Possible Measurement Tools

- Attendance/Usage

- Campus surveys
  - Staff @ Work
  - Customer Satisfaction Survey

- Diversity recognition
  - UCSD Equal Opportunity/ Affirmative Action and Diversity Awards

- Sustainability recognition
  - E.A.R.T.H. Award (Environmental Action and Restoration That Helps) from San Diego EarthWorks
Social Sustainability
Internal

- Organizational Culture
- Health & Wellbeing Programs
- Social Entrepreneurship
- Ways of Measurement

García-Spitz, C.
Measures taken

UC San Diego Library ARL’s ClimateQUAL

2012 Survey team  2013 Implementation team  2014 6month check-ins  2015

Outcomes:

• Created Library Diversity & Inclusion Committee (LDIC) for staff
• Created Library Community Building Committee (LCBC) for staff
• Redesigned Staff Intranet
  ○ Moved to a wiki-based platform with open editing by default
  ○ Updated content, including additional forms and policies
  ○ Added social dimensions, e.g. Briarslist (Library’s internal/staff craigslist)
Microaggressions and the API (Asian Pacific Islander) Community
Thursday, March 30, 2017
10 - 11am
Geisel Library Classroom 2

My co-worker laughed at me and said, "You're Asian, shouldn't you be good at numbers?"

Employee Calendar

Thursday, March 16
12:00pm  Library Mindfulness

Monday, March 20
10:45am  Candidate Presentation: Scholarly Comm.

Tuesday, March 21
12:00pm  Library Yoga
2:00pm  Winter Quarter New Employee Welcome E

Wednesday, March 22
12:00pm  Library Chorus

Thursday, March 23
10:30am  Candidate Presentation: Internal Commun
12:00pm  8 (Research Data) Things
12:00pm  Library Yoga

Monday, March 27
10:30am  Candidate Presentation: Internal Commun

Issues & Requests

Found a problem? Need to request service? Let us know!

- Issues & Requests - Facilities
- Issues & Requests - IT Service Desk
- Issues & Requests - Safety & Security
Embedded Sustainability: Bottom Up, Top Down

UC San Diego Library’s Sustainability Group (LSG)

- Training events for staff (Green Training Event)
- Annual Fruit & Veggie Exchange, Summertime Swap Event
- Office Supply Rehome Program
- Loaner program: Bring your own mug/utensils to events
Embedded Sustainability: Bottom Up, Top Down

UC San Diego Library Diversity & Inclusion Committee (LDIC)
- Training events for staff
- DiversiTea
- Funding for diversity/inclusion-related conference attendance

UC San Diego Library Community Building Committee (LCBC)
- Coffee/Tea Chats with the University Librarian for staff
- Employee Profile Videos
- Game of Scones
Summary

- International
- National
- Local & Campus
- Community

- Social
- Environmental
- Economical

YOU
Any organization with these three pillars holistically integrated would understand that sustainability is not a choice between environmental protection and social progress, but instead about striving for economic and social development that is compatible with environmental protection and organization development.

Is There a New Vision?

F.W. Stoss, 2015, “Putting Sustainability in Your Programs and Activities,” NYS Outdoor Education Association, Annual Meeting
Sustainable Campuses & Communities

4-Legs = Greater Stability

Environmental Ethical
Social Economical

F.W. Stoss, 2015, “Putting Sustainability in Your Programs and Activities,” NYS Outdoor Education Association, Annual Meeting
Where do we go from here?

Questions, Comments, Concerns?
We would love to hear your thoughts...

Cristela Garcia-Spitz  cgarciaspitz@ucsd.edu
Julia Gelfand  jgelfand@uci.edu
Heather Hayashi  hnhayashi@ucsd.edu
Gayatri Singh  gasingh@ucsd.edu
Frederick Stoss  fstoss@buffalo.edu
Resources


Resources


**Resources**

*Sitler, Joseph. (1964). The Care of the Earth and Other University Sermons (Reissued by Fortress Press as The Care of the Earth in 2004).*

*Stoss, Frederick. (2015). “Putting Sustainability in Your Programs and Activities,” NYS Outdoor Education Association, November 5-8 at Sharpe Reservation’s Camp Mariah in Fishkill, NY.*


Resources


